Appln. No.: 10/616,761

Amendment Dated February 28, 2006 Reply to Office Action of January 9, 2006

<u>Amendments to the Claims:</u> This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity, the dispenser comprising:

a barrel including a head, a foot, and a body having a length and extending between the head and the foot, the barrel further (a) defining an axial passage disposed along substantially the entire length of the body beginning at the foot and ending proximate the head, and (b) including a side aperture joining the head of and providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial passage at the head of the barrel; and

a plunger including a nose, a tail, and a frame extending between the nose and the tail and having a length sized to travel within the axial passage of the barrel between a relaxed position and a compressed position, in which a wherein the suppository is ejected from the side aperture, upon actuation as the plunger travels toward the compressed position.

- 2. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further includes one or more gripping fingers disposed in the head to secure the [[a]] suppository within the side aperture.
- 3. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the plunger further includes a resilient folding protrusion joining extending from the nose, the folding protrusion pushing the suppository through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger.
- 4. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 3, wherein the folding protrusion of the plunger has at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding protrusion.
- 5. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 3, wherein the folding protrusion of the plunger has a tip and the head of the barrel has a shoulder, the tip abutting the shoulder

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and preventing movement of the folding protrusion in a first direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend.

- 6. (Original) The plunger according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further includes a depth indicator on its external surface.
- 7. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further includes a plurality of holes in its body and the plunger further includes a corresponding number of resilient locator tabs on the frame, the locator tabs engaging the holes to provide a physical indication of the position of the plunger relative to the barrel.
- 8. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further includes one or more ribs disposed along the exterior surface of the barrel to provide texture facilitating a secure gripping of the barrel.
- 9. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the barrel further includes a guide disposed on <u>an</u> [[the]] inner surface of its body and the plunger further includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.
- 10. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the head of the barrel presents a solid, smooth, continuous, rounded surface.
- 11. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 1, wherein the plunger further includes side rails disposed along the length of the frame, the side rails contacting [[the]] inside walls of the body of the barrel as the plunger traverses the axial passage of the barrel, as necessary, to maintain the plunger running along the axis of the barrel.
- 12. (Currently amended) A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity, the dispenser comprising:

a barrel including a foot, a head having a shoulder and presenting a solid, smooth, continuous, rounded surface, and a body having a length and extending between the head and the foot, the barrel further (a) defining an axial passage disposed along substantially the entire length of the

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body beginning at the foot and ending proximate the head, and (b) including a side aperture joining the head of and providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial passage at the head of the barrel; and

## a plunger including:

- (a) a nose having and a resilient folding protrusion extending from the nose, said protrusion pushing the suppository through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger, the folding protrusion having at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding protrusion and a tip abutting the shoulder of the head of the barrel and preventing movement of the folding protrusion in a first direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend,
  - (b) a tail adapted to receive force applied by a user to the plunger, and
- (c) a frame extending between the nose and the tail and having a length sized to travel within the axial passage of the barrel between a relaxed position and a compressed position, in which a wherein the suppository is ejected from the side aperture, upon actuation as the plunger travels toward the compressed position.
- 13. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further includes one or more gripping fingers disposed in the head to secure [[a]] the suppository within the side aperture.
- 14. (Original) The plunger according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further includes a depth indicator on its external surface.
- 15. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further includes a plurality of holes in its body and the plunger further includes a corresponding number of resilient locator tabs on the frame, the locator tabs engaging the holes to provide a physical indication of the position of the plunger relative to the barrel.
- 16. (Original) The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further includes one or more ribs disposed along the exterior surface of the barrel to provide texture facilitating a secure gripping of the barrel.

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- 17. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the barrel further includes a guide disposed on [[the]] an inner surface of its body and the plunger further includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.
- 18. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 12, wherein the plunger further includes side rails disposed along the length of the frame, the side rails contacting [[the]] inside walls of the body of the barrel as the plunger traverses the axial passage of the barrel, as necessary, to maintain the plunger running along the axis of the barrel.
- 19. (Currently amended) A dispenser for delivering a suppository within a body cavity, the dispenser comprising:
  - a barrel including:
  - (a) a foot,
- (b) a head having a shoulder and one or more gripping fingers securing a suppository within the side aperture and presenting a solid, smooth, continuous, rounded surface, and
- (c) a body having a length and a plurality of holes and extending between the head and the foot, the barrel further (i) defining an axial passage disposed along substantially the entire length of the body beginning at the foot and ending proximate the head, and (ii) including a side aperture joining the head of and providing external access through the body of the barrel to the axial passage at the head of the barrel; and

## a plunger including:

(a) a nose having and a resilient folding protrusion extending from the nose, said protrusion pushing the suppository through the side aperture upon actuation of the plunger, the folding protrusion having at least one hinge facilitating bending of the folding protrusion and a tip abutting the shoulder of the head of the barrel and preventing movement of the folding protrusion in a first direction, thereby causing the folding protrusion to bend,

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- (b) a tail, and
- (c) a frame extending between the nose and the tail and having a length sized to travel within the axial passage of the barrel between a relaxed position and a compressed position, in which a wherein the suppository is ejected from the side aperture, upon actuation as the plunger travels toward the compressed position, the frame further having a number of resilient locator tabs engaging the plurality of holes in the body of the barrel to provide a physical indication of the position of the plunger relative to the barrel.
- 20. (Currently amended) The dispenser according to claim 19, wherein the barrel further includes a guide disposed on [[the]] an inner surface of its body and the plunger further includes a corresponding track, the track receiving the guide when the plunger is inserted in the axial passage of the barrel.